

Maurice Hinchey NEWS

26TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 1, 2001

Contact: Kevin O'Connell
202-225-6335

BROOME-TIOGA BOCES AWARDED \$814,171 TO ENHANCE HISTORY INSTRUCTION

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) today announced that Broome-Tioga BOCES, in partnership with Binghamton University and the Southern Tier Teacher Center Network, has been awarded a grant of \$814,171 by the U.S. Department of Education. The funds are being awarded through the Teaching American History Grants Program.

"The best way to improve the education of our children is to provide their teachers with better tools and increased knowledge," said Hinchey. "This program will give teachers in the Southern Tier additional ways of instilling in their students a greater understanding and appreciation of American History."

The purpose of the Teaching American History Grants Program is to improve the quality of instruction in American History, as distinct from general social studies education. Congress appropriated \$50 million in fiscal year 2001 to provide competitive grants to school districts, which were required to work in partnership with at least one institution of higher education, a non-profit history or humanities organization, a library or a museum.

Broome-Tioga BOCES, in partnership with Binghamton University and the Southern Tier Teacher Center Network, plans to serve 100 teachers in the 15 school districts in its region. The program will concentrate on teachers in the school districts of Binghamton, Whitney Point, Newark Valley and Harpursville. Binghamton University's history and education facilities are working jointly on this project along with curriculum specialists from the school districts.

"This partnership represents a true collaboration designed to help all students meet higher standards," said BOCES Deputy Superintendent Brenda Myers.